NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE "SPIRITUAL RAPPINGS."

To turn a deaf ear to the appeal made to us in the subjoined Letter is out of the question; acknowledging as we do the good will and the kind offices which we constantly experienced from the writer, as well as from the other distinguished gentleman referred to by him, whilst they stood, 'side by side, deservedly high in the most elevated branch of the National Councils. We therefore give respectful place to his communication, without replying a word to any thing in it, cheerfully according to him the right to declare for himself, for his respected friend of Rhode Island, and for all others agreeing with them, their views on this particular subject, which it is as impossible for us to concur in as it would be idle for us to attempt to controvert

We will only add, what it is due to candor that we should state, that our disbelief in "clairvoyance" is as absolute, and we believe incurable, as in the possibility of spiritual intercourse between the Living and the Dead.

TO THE EDITORS.

COLLAMORE HOUSE, NEW YORK, APRIL 30, 1853. Messrs. Gales & Seaton: A friend has just called my attention to an article in the National Intelligencer of the 25th instant, headed "Impostures and Delusions." The article is not under the Editorial head; still it is not marked as a communication, and was considered by the gentleman who handed it to me, and would be considered by the generality of your readers, as editorial. Be this, however, as it may, the article is published by you without any dissent from its views, and may therefore be taken by the uninformed as meeting your approbation.

"that there may yet arise, at future periods, similar or rogator. analogous disorders of the popular mind, invading and corrupting the whole body politic, which it may in like manner become necessary to suppress by the strong hand train of rascalities and abominations."

A little further on the writer adds: "In like manner it is the general opinion of well-informed and deep-thinking order, and peculiarly characteristic of the individual. I persons that it is already high time to call in legislative aid, if the execution of no existing statutes can reach the present evil, for this perilous imposture, or yet more perilous contagion of morbid minds."

This is a sweeping denunciation of all who have investigated these "spiritual manifestations," and who have expressed a belief in their truth. And the spirit which pervades the whole article would not only recall the " Salem hangings," but would also invoke the "fires of Smithfield." I have no hesitation in saying I am one tations, whether physical or moral, proceed? Judge Edit will be wholly exempt from all ordinary disasters by monds was told that they were all according to natural there are throughout this widely-extended country some by a writer who is so far behind the intelligence of the age that he includes in his denunciations mesmerism and clairvoyance, which are considered by intelligent and magnetism. If this were all, he would deserve simply to be laughed at. But, in regard to spiritualism, he probably never condescended to examine the subject, and yet assumes that he knows more about it by mere instinct most patient research and philosophical investigation.

This article, I am persuaded, has been published by you without full examination or due reflection. It runs counter to all the principles of "law and order" which have been so uniformly enforced in the National Intelligencer. And I regret extremely that such disorganizing, such abominable, such flagitious sentiments should, even tinguished men in the nation. I gave to them my own opinions, and the exalted communications and facts on which those opinions were founded.

Retired from public life. I have desired in this, as in all other matters, to avoid public observation. At the same time, you have been acquainted with me well enough and long enough to know that, when I have deliberately formed an opinion on any subject, I have that rare quality, called moral courage, which enables me to avow it either in private or in public.

So far as the public are concerned, I have as yet endeavered to maintain a profound silence. But, considering myself as one of those so vindictively denounced in the article alluded to, further silence on my part would argue pusillanimity, and cease to be a virtue. I have not language to express my astonishment at the suggestions and doctrines there put forth-doctrines which subvert the very principles of civil and religious freedem. guarantied by the Constitution under which we live Who could have conceived that, at this advanced period of the nineteenth century, whilst we are surrounded by the multiplied evidences of the rapid progress in science and the arts. we should witness such evidences of bigotry and superstition, and such a retrogression towards the "Cimerian darkness" which spread like a pall over the ancient world? If there was ever a monomania on any subject, it is on the part of those who have, without knowledge or investigation, denounced so madly these "spiritual manifestations." I find no fault with those who do not believe in them; but I cannot withhold an expression of my surprise that intelligent minds can be found to denounce those who do investigate them.

To vindicate myself, therefore, from these aspersions I enclose you a copy of a letter which I wrote early last January to the Hon. JAMES F. SIMMONS, former United States Senator from Rhode Island. The letter was written in the confidence of private friendship, and not intended for the public eye. Such as it is, however, I send it to you, and ask, as an act of justice, that you will publish it, together with this letter, in the National Intelligencer.

You need not be told who JAMES F. SIMMONS is. He occupied a seat for several years with me in the Senate of the United States; and amongst all the members of that body you did not number two better friends. We were both deemed capable at that time of examining satisfactorily any question of finance, or of political eco nomy, on which we might be engaged. But now, because we have thoroughly investigated these "spiritual manifestations," and believe in their truth, we are included in the general, and Judge Edmonds in the particular, denunciations of this writer. I have given the character of has often followed from religious excitement, and the Judge Edmonds in my letter to Mr. Simmons; and I will only add here, in reference to the retailed slander and speering remark of the writer in regard to his decisions, that, as a Judge, he unites the qualities of two of the brightest luminaries of the English bench, namely, the profundity of Bacon with the intuition of Mansfield. Very respectfully, yours, N. P. TALLMADGE.

LETTER TO MR. SIMMONS, (ABOVE ALLUDED TO.)

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 10, 1853. My DEAR SIE: I was pleased to see in the January number of "Putnam's Monthly" a statement of your experience in "spiritual manifestations." In our conversation at Washington, during the last session of Congress, you had stated the same to me.

My experience is, probably, more limited than yours but yours has served, in some measure, to strengthen the impressions made on my own mind by the investigation

have given to this mysterious subject.

I had heard for a long time of the "Rochester knockings," but had paid no heed to them; on the contrary,

Court of Appeals, where he holds a deservedly high and can we discard such evidences from the spirit world, distinguished rank amongst his brethren, the able Judges which is believed to be one of "everlasting progression."

Many persons, unable to resist the evidence of the also knew him as a gentleman of finished classical educa-ion, and as a lawyer of an acute mind, and a decided spiritual manifestations," it was, at least, a subject worthy of investigation. Accordingly, I determined to investigate it, as oppor-

tunity should present. I thought I could bring to on it a pretty good share of common sense, and a rea-sonable talent for investigation. And knowing withal that I had not a great deal of enthusiasm in my composi-tion, I believed I could enter upon the investigation without much danger of being carried away by any delusion.
In this frame of mind I commenced the investigation of this subject; being an entire unbeliever, but entering upon it with a sincere desire to ascertain the truth. I n the progress of my investigation. Suffice it to say, they were of the most astounding character. I soon beame satisfied of two things : first, that the "medium" did not know from whence the "raps" proceeded; secondly, that she did not know from whence the communications came. Perhaps I ought in this connexion to observe that, in pursuing this investigation, all my questions were propounded mentally. The medium did not and could not know what they were, and of course could not tell what answers to give, or what would be appropriate

esponses to the questions thus mentally propounded. Objectors cannot deny that these answers come from an intelligent source; but they sometimes say that they are to be found in the mind of the interrogator. It is true that the interrogator oftentimes knows the answer to the question mentally propounded by him; and it is equally true that he frequently does not know what the appropriate answer should be, but ascertains its truth afterwards. Neither can he in any way anticipate many ommunications which are made without any questions eing asked. I have frequently received such communications of an elevated character, and far above the ca-pacity of the medium. I conclude, therefore, they do not The writer alludes to the "Salem hangings," and says come from the medium, nor from the mind of the inter-

These communications, too, are perfectly characteristic of the individuals from whom they purport to come. I have had frequent communications purporting to come.

Our Hydraulic Canal.—We are happy in heing able from my old friend, John C. Calhoun, which his intimate of the law. Indeed, we might point, as already coming within friends would pronounce perfectly characteristic of him; this category, the Rochester knockings, with their kindred and some of them, both in style and sentiment, worthy of him in his palmiest days in the Senate of the United States. I have had similar ones purporting to come from HENRY CLAY and DANIEL WEBSTER, of the same elevated can make the same remark of other individuals.

I have seen rapping mediums, writing mediums, and speaking mediums, and have received communications through all of them. I have witnessed physical manifestations, such as the movement of tables, without any sure at all ordinary stages ten feet depth of water. visible agency. These physical manifestations are more visible agency. These physical manifestations are more satisfactory to the mass of mankind, because they appeal of two hundred feet are taken into consideration, will furdirectly to the senses. I am better pleased myself the moral, if I may so call them, than the physical manifestations. The next question is, from whence do these manifes-

laws, which would in due time be fully developed; and of the brightest and most exalted intellects who have, Magnetism and Electricity. (a book he had never heard from a thorough investigation of this matter, come to the of before,) as a means of enabling him to understand same conclusion. Yet such men are to be thus denounced these laws. I have read the book myself. The writer proves conclusively the discovery of a new element, which he calls od, or the odic force. He proves that this element pervades not only the human system, but the material world and the whole universe. He finds it in the rays of scientific men as well established as electricity and the sun, moon, and stars. Late English writers of high reputation consider the existence of the odic force as well established as that of magnetism and electricity. It comsines many of the qualities of the two latter, and is an agonistic to some of them. It may be presumed, therefore, that this newly-discovered element enters, in some than others of equal talent, to say the least, do by the sort, into these manifestations. It is said that this accounts for the physical manifestations. But no one can show how this force produces them. And even if this were proved, it still remains to account for the intelligence in the communications which are received. That intelligence does not come from tables, or chairs, or other material objects. It must come from mind, or from a spiritual source. This new element may be the medium of is beyond conjecture. It was evidently the res conveying it to us. To illustrate, let me suppose that criminal carelessness. The night was as brigh indirectly, have the influence of your names. I feel my- Washington. He sends his communication to me through a friend in New York wishes to communicate with me in nearly full moon and the clearest atmosphere cou self as being included in these denunciations; for, although I do not obtrude my opinions or my facts on and written down here the same as a communication is at if it was impossible for both engineers not to any one, still I have communicated freely with those who I ask how is that communication from my friend convey-ed to me? The answer is, by the electric fluid. But with ample time to brake up, the trains wer have voluntarily sought information on this subject.

During the last winter at Washington I conferred fally, and on their own solicitation, with some of the most discase of the rapping medium, the communication comes from some source of intelligence. This intelligence, as Chicago. The coroner's jury, after invesevery one knows who has investigated these matters, does returned a verdict in which they say the not come from the table that is moved by some invisible tributable to the gross carelessness of the power, nor from the medium, nor from any one present. the trains, and they have accordingly be it is therefore to be inferred that it comes from a spiritual will be held for trial on the charge of r source; and more especially when communications are town meeting had been held by the c

> Some have attempted to account for all those things by having control of the Southern and Ce mesmerism, clairvoyance, and psychology. Let it be remembered that twelve or fifteen years ago mesmerism, of said roads to be avoided, or that rappings' are now. They were called humbugs and juggery then, as these manifestations are at this day. This prejudice and denunciation continued in England till the blication of the philosophical treatise of the Rev. Mr. | the sufferers in procuring dame Townshend, which changed the whole current of public sentiment. There have been many able publications on these subjects since that time, and they are now considered as well established as magnetism or electricity. Sup-pose these denunciations had deterred philosophical minds from investigating them, how much light would have been lost to science and the world? Now, all the magic, the mysteries, the witchcraft, and necromancy of the ancient world, from the time of the Delphic Oracle, are explained by these modern investigations and all. New York. are explained by these modern investigations; and all opular delusions, however exaggerated, are now shown have truth for their basis. I have read many of the ablest writers on these subjects; but to my mind not one ent dress. Entire re of them has been able to account for these "spiritual parade in that city, manifestations." Hence the greater importance of con- er efficiency and di tinuing these investigations. To denounce, therefore, those engaged in them is as unwise as it is unphilosophical; and more especially if such denunciations come from those who never witnessed any of the facts and manifestations which have convinced the judgments of men qually intelligent, equally honest, and as little likely to

be deluded as themselves.

But what is the objection to investigating this matter? Is it feared that there may be some discrepancies between the religious sentiments communicated and the tenets of the different religious denominations amongst us? Such discrepancies are heard every Sunday from our different pulpits throughout the land. And still all denominations of Christians, though differing about particular tenets, maintain the great and leading doctrines of Christianity. And from the investigation I have given the subject, I agree with the Rev. Adin Ballou, who has written the most candid and satisfactory explanation I have seen, that " whatever of divine fundamental principle absolute truth, and assential righteousness there is in the Bible, in the popular religion, and in the established Churches will It cannot be done away. On the contrary, it will be

orroborated and fulfilled by spirit manifestations."

It has been objected that there have been cases of derange. ent arising from these manifestations. If there be such ases, I apprehend they are less numerous than they have een represented, and may have arisen from other causes than the one to which they have been attributed. But, be that as it may, and be the number great or small, it has no possible bearing on this question. Derangement ver-excited passions of the human heart. Still, this is o objection to the investigation of the truths of religion r of the emotions and passions of our nature. Neither an objection to investigating the subject under conderation. Denunciations cannot stop it, but on the c trary tend to encourage it. But for the denunciation Judge Edmonds, an old acquaintance and friend, I c whether my attention would have been called to it. whether my attention would have been called be true, it should be known; for great and mighty must follow. Already we hear of many who ha converted from infidelity, and now proclaim the tality of the soul, and that "death is" not "a Tra If it be not true, that can only be asce tained by vestigation; and the sooner it be done the ! setter. In ither case, therefore, all good citizens, all ands should unite in ascertaining the truth or falsity of this the greatest phenomenon of the presen t or any pre-

eding age. It is understood to be a general belie f, at this day, imongst all Claristian denominations, t' aat spirits visit this earth: Wat they attend us; that they impross us, and thereby protect us from accident at al danger. Every one's own er perience will confirm the ' ruth of this observation. A communication to me, 5 arporting to come from Mr. Calhoun, conveys the san se idea; wherein he

newspaper attack on Judge Edmonds for being a believer mankind." If, then, such be the general belief, is it any in these "spiritual manifestations." I had known Judge great stretch of that belief, after the astounding facts we Edmonds for thirty years; had practised law in the same have seen and heard, to suppose that there may have been Edmonds for thirty years; had practised law in the same courts; had served in the Senate of New York with him; had been associated with him also as a member of the Court for the Correction of Errors, the highest court in that they are permitted so to do? To my mind the conclusion is perfectly rational and philosophical. With all clusion is perfectly rational and philosophical. With all clusion is perfectly rational and philosophical with all clusion is perfectly rational and philosophical.

Many persons, unable to resist the evidence of the spiritual source of these communications, are finally compelled to admit them, and, as a last resort, charge them talent for investigation. And, above all, I knew him to be a man of unimpeachable integrity. Knowing all these up the controversy. There may be communications from evil spirits. I consider this as giving up the controversy. There may be communications from evil spirits. But that does not conflict with the communications from evil spirits. But that does not conflict with the communications from evil spirits. But that does not conflict with the communications from evil spirits. But that does not conflict with the communications from evil spirits. nications which bear internal evidence of coming from the "spirits of just men made more perfect." There is an abundance of communications purporting to come from such a source, and of the purest, most elevated, and most religious character. If the "evil one" has prompted these, I confess I have heretofore formed a very wrong estimate of his character.

On the whole, the result of my investigations thus lar is, that the weight of evidence is in favor of the truth of port, and he, in substance, reported the resolution which is now before the Senate. The Committee on Military to investigate as opportunity offers. And if, hereafter, the preponderance of evidence shall incline to the other ill not trouble you with the facts which were developed side, I shall as readily announce that result as I have above communicated the other.

> knowledge; for they are those that most need it.
>
> Excuse this desultory communication, and accept the assurance of the high respect and esteem with which I am, very truly yours,
>
> N. P. TALLMADGE. Hon. JAMES F. SIMMONS.

THINGS AT NIAGARA FALLS.

We clip from the Niagara Falls "Iris" the folowing intelligence of doings at that place :

OUR HOTELS .- During the coming season Niagara Falls sill be supplied with a goodly number of comfortable hotels. There are few places of fashionable resort for and are making in our hotels, and with the coming season will be prepared to accommodate the travelling community who visit this place by tens of thousands during the mid-summer. It is always a satisfaction to the traveller so find good quarters, and those visiting Niagara Falls

OUR HYDRAULIC CANAL.-We are happy in being able to state that a company has been organized, consisting of gentlemen of known wealth and enterprise in New York and Boston, with a capital of \$500,000; that a Board of generous victor than able directors has been chosen, and that in their hands this great work is about to be commenced and vigorously prosecuted to completion. We have seen the plans and drawings, and confess we are struck with the magnificence of the enterprise. The canal for nearly its whole length (about three-quarters of a mile) will be a limestone rock excavation. It is to be seventy feet in width, with perpendicular sides, and to be deep enough to ennish a hydraulic power which, we venture to say, will in value have no equal in this or any other country; especially when it is borne in mind that its availability will at

CANANDAIGUA AND NIAGARA FALLS RAILROAD .- There is every prospect that this road will be in running order by the 1st of June next, agreeably to the promise of the company. The contract for laying the track from Batavia to this village has been taken by Mr. Sill, who has already commenced at Batavia working west, and at Tonawanda working both ways.

TRAGEDY AT FORT BELKNAP .- On the 27th of March Major Sibley had a difficulty with the Wasoes Indians, and recently a party of Wichitas having come into Fort Belknap, he detained them as prisoners. At night the chief, after murdering his own wife and child, rose upon the guard with his warriors, nine in number. The sent nel on guard was instantly killed and another soldie wounded. The chief was killed in the struggle, but a .il the warriors escaped.

THE COLLISION ON THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN MIC GAN RAHLROADS .- The cause of the late collision bety reen . the express train on the Southern Michigan railway an emigrant and freight train on the Michigan C mtral ! alt of The two roads cross each other at nearly righ e recklessly The event has caused a high degree of

tigation, have fisaster was atose in charge of en arrested, and anslaughter. A tizens of Chicago, received on subjects exclusively known to those commu- at which the action of the coroners' jury was approved of, and a resolution was adopted demanof the persons ntral Michigan roads y cause the crossings ie can be done, every prossing, and that pergive notice of the was also appointed to aid

The steamship Albatross, w cacked on the 10th pitimo. on the trip from New Orlean to Vera Cruz, was built in Philadelphia, at a cost of \$90,000, for the Charleston She recently became the property of SIMEON DRA-DER, of New York, in payr \$60,000, and at the time of of her wreck was on her second trip to Vera Cruz, with passengers bound to California was insured principally in

The military of Nev Vork are all adopting the same uniform, instead of a ppearing each company in a differnents, with the same uniform, now and are considered as tending to great-It is said that a

number of gentlemen of Trenton, (N. J.) of both politic al parties, and of influential positions owunder consideration the plan of a new in society, have n Temperance org anization, differing in principle from the Maine Law. T te basis of their plan is as follows: No more taverns th an are necessary for public convenience, within the me aning of the statute; the qualification of all applicants for license to be strictly what the law requires; the rigid and unrelenting application of the Sunday La an increase of penalties against drunkenness and t acir rigid enforcement against all delinquents. ill that argument, persuasion, and kindness can accom! dish against intemperance, but no "Maine dibition under any circumstances. Law" prol

MILL BURNT AND SERIOUS LOSS OF LIFE .- The gh Despatch states that on Tuesday evening last of the rolling mill in Sharon, Mercer county, spdeavoring to extinguish the flames, the roof fell d seven persons were killed, and others badly The names of the killed are Wm. Scott, Reese ams, Wm. Graham, a man named Jordan, Mr. Alht, John L. Jones, and a boy named Burr.

On Saturday last the Excelsior Lodge of Independent rder of Odd Fellows, at New York, increased their iniation fee from ten to one hundred dollars. They must be letermined to be exclusive. In opposition to this, their benefits amount to eight dollars per week, and they pay to widows of deceased members one hundred and fifty dollars per annum. The surplus funds of this Lodge amount to about ten thousand dollars, and they are doing a vast deal of good among those dependant upon them

STICKING TO PRINCIPLE. - About thirty-five years ago there resided in the town of Hebron a certain Dr. T., who became very much enamored of a young lady in the In due course of time they were engaged to same town. be married. The Doctor was a strong and decided Presbyterian, and his lady-love as strong and decided a Baptist. They were sitting together one evening, talking of their approaching nuptuals, when the Doctor remarked, "I am thinking, my dear, of two events which I shall number among the happiest of my life." "And pray what may they be, Doctor?" asked the lady. "One is the hour when I shall call you my wife for the first time." "And the other, if you please?" "It is when we shall present our first born for baptism." "What, "Yes, my dear, sprinkled." "Never shall ne be sprinkled!" "Every child of mine shall child of mine be sprinkled!" be sprinkled." "They shall be, ha!" "Yes, my love." Well, sir, I can tell you then that your babies won't b

DEFERRED DEBATE IN SENATE

LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1853. The Senate having under consideration the joint resolution "authorizing the President of the United States to confer the title of Lieutenant General by brevet for eminent services"-

Mr. SHIELDS said: I deem it my duty to state that Affairs, and I was instructed to make a report at that time, and I did so. The report was favorably received by

At the last session the Military Committee again but ated upon the consideration of the subject, and instructed On the whole, the result of my investigations thus far the Senator from Alabama (Mr. CLEMENS) to make a re Affairs deem this a matter of justice, military j'astice, t Gen. Scott. The intention is to confer a brevet upon General Scott, and this resolution proposes to give such power to the President of the United States, by whom we have no doubt it will be exercised in accordance with our In the mean time, let us exercise all possible charity for those who do not believe; and especially those who denounce without investigation, and condemn without the resolution upon General Scott. That is not in our the resolution upon General Scott. That is not in our power. But it gives the President power to confer the brevet in such a way as to embrace Gener al Scott. The Military Committee are of opinion that A is a matter of justice to that distinguished individual. If all the officers who served in the Mexican war, I believ a General Scott is the only one in the regular army that as gained neither additional pay nor additional rank in consequence of that service. His subordinates—all who served with any disservice. His subordinates—all who s erved with any dis-tinction under him—received one, tw e, or three brevets; and they have the rank, and most ef them the pay, to which those brevets entitled ther a. But he who com-manded the army, who was at the head of it, and who guided it to the achievement of hose glorious victories, has received nothing—neither at mittonal pay nor additourists that have so many public houses of so good a tional rank: It occurs to me—and I hope it will strike quality as Niagara Falls. Great improvements have been every one in that light—that it is a matter of military justice that he should derive sor additional rank from his glorious and gallant services; a that war; and no man in the country will deny that the ase services were of the most glorious character.

Besides, sir, it seems to me that this is a favorable oc-

casion to perform this act, majority, with whom I have the honor to be associated politically. The power ful should always be generous; it I can say it truly and . General Scott himself; there never was a more humane or a more generous chieftain. But I do not place this we for a more generous chieftain. But I can the ground of generosity. We base it upon the principle of military justice to this distinguished chieftair. His position was such that he could guished chiertan L. His position was such that he not obtain addi sional rank without legislation. His sub-His position was such that he could

I know th stit may be said that a brevet is of very little value; but it is of great value to a soldier; it is of in- with his honors by reviving them for another. And, be- sons which control me. calculable value to him—and why? Because it is the stamp of his nation; it is a seal put upon him by his country for gallant services; he feels proud that his country to a seal put upon him by his country. try recognises these services, and a brevet is a proof of that re cognition. That is the reason why the soldier values it; and in that respect it is invaluable to him. Every man who knows any thing of the army knows that.

I k aow that the honorable Senator from Massachusetts SUMBER) has this morning presented a memorial the Peace Society, by which that society, I believe, coses a plan that will prevent any future wars. I e that may be the case; but, judging of the future by past. I doubt whether that society will produce any sat influence upon the world. At all events, this couny owes a great deal more to its army than to peace socie-es. And permit me to say, that at this moment there

s not an army of the same number in the world that per-forms more hard, dreary, and cheerless service than the army of the United States. They are away beyond the bounds of civilization, scattered along your vast frontier. They endure all the hardships, all the fatigue, all the privations, and, I may say, all the dangers of war, and have none of its promises of glory. A compliment paid to the chief of the army is an honor to the whole army.

Every man in the army feels it. Besides, sir, your army deserves well of the country There never was a little army on earth that deserved more from a country than the army of the United States. It brought you through three glorious wars; and from Lexington to Mexico it has always been victorious; and perhaps there is not in that whole path of glory from t as a Lexington to the City of Mexico, one portion more bril-d make liant than that guided by this distinguished chieftain whom tangles, we intend by this resolution to honor. Look at the campaign from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. Sir, there is no true history of that campaign. I have read all the histories which have been published, and none of them do justice to the campaign, or to the chieftain who guided and directed the army through it. I am not going into it ives of some now; but I would ask any man to point out to me a Wilkinson, who commanded the army for many years. parallel in military histo the seige and capture of Vera Cruz. One of the strongest places in the world-strongly fortified, strongly garri soned—fell before the American army, with only the loss, in killed and wounded, of about sixty men. Was not that

generalship? Where can you find a parallel for it! Go to Cerro Gordo, a natural fortress, nothing like it perhaps on this continent; a handful of men might have lefended it against an army. Then look at the attack, look at the execution of that plan ; look at its results; and where will you find a more glorious military

achievement. Sir, go to the City of Mexico. Look at our army before that city. There it was, comprising only about six thousand men, the mere remnant of war, of battle, of disease. Before them lay a city of two hundred thousand inhabitants, defended by an army of over twenty thousand men, as well disciplined, as well organized as they hemselves were. Around that remnant of Americans were their wounded, their sick, their dying. There they were, in the midst of a nation of seven millions of enemies. There they stood, cut off, isolated from their own country, comprising only six thousand men, in the heart of a nation, before one of the most magnificent cities on this continent, with an army of twenty thousand men defend it. Yet your army entered that city; they captured it, and forced the country to peace. And I will add, what is more glorious, both to the army and its commander, that life and property were never as secure in that city since the fall of the Montezumas as while our army occupied it; for I will say this, and I can say it fearlessly, that a more humane and generous commander never led an army than the man whom it is intended to ponor by this resolution.

Sir, I intended, when I got up, to say but a few words I felt it my duty from our past relations to say this much; and having done so, I take my seat, hoping that the resolution will be adopted.

Mr. CASS. Mr. President, when this subject was be ore us some months since I had insuperable objections and so expressed myself, to the form in which it was presented. The bill, as originally introduced, created the revet grade of lieutenant general, and rendered it a permanent part of our military establishment.

I was utterly opposed to such an arrangement, and desired the office to be a temporary one, to be limited to the occasion which seemed to render it proper. I pro-posed an amendment which had in view this object, and avowed the determination to support the measure if i were adopted, and to vote against it if it were rejected The bill now before us, introduced by the honorable Senator from Alabama, (Mr. CLEMENS,) embraces the princi-ple of my amendment, providing that the law shall ter-minate when the office has been once filled, and become vacant, and I shall therefore cheerfully give it my sup The object of this proposition is well understood by the Senate and by the country, and I shall enfine my elf rather to the explanation of my general views in relation to it than to any specific objections made here or elsewhere. That object is to provide a mode in which an appropriate mark of public approbation may be confered upon General Scott for his eminent military services in Mexico. This purpose is not, indeed, expressed in the bill itself; because, being a legislative measure, all we can do in our legislative capacity is to create the grade, leaving to the appointing power to fill it upon its own responsibility. We may, of course, be sure that the honor will be conferred upon General Scott; and we know by the terms of the bill, as I have already said, that it cannot afterwards be conferred upon any other person, as the law ipso fucto expires upon the happening

a vacancy. All nations, sir, and we among them, have adopted the olicy-the justice, indeed-of conferring rewards for listinguished military services. These tokens of the gratitude of a country are not only precious memorials to those receiving them, and who have gained their title to them by the toils, and trials, and exposures, and sufferings of a perilous profession, but they become an encour agement, an incentive, to others to follow in the same career, and to hope for the same distinction.

A character of high and jealous honor is essential to the efficiency of any military establishment. It is not a cold performance of duty which can raise it to a proper standard, but there must be an esprit du corps, a spirit of em-ulation, a striving with one another, generous indeed, but ings," but had paid no heed to them; on the contrary, had considered them a delusion which would soon from Mr. Calhoun, conveys the san se idea; wherein he pass away. I continued under these impressions till says, "We, by our united will acting upon spirits clothed on the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the lady is story was that the Doctor never married, and the feelings of the American army, and I can say

sults, and all who contributed to them by distinguished personal exertions received the acknowledgment of their good conduct by brevet promotions; and in many instances by more than one, where more than one chance of istinction offered itself, and was seized in a proper spirit. He who planned and conducted one of those perilous inwards, so gratifying to the just pride of a soldier. And why | ment : is this? Not because his eminent merits were not felt and acknowledged—for no such injustice found place in the hearts of the people—but because he won, almost forty years ago, in other fields, but with equal gallantry, the highest grade known to our system. And though he had other services to render, we had no other rewards to effer, in the line of his duty, without some new legislative provision. The gradations in our military establishment rise from second to third lieutenants, formerly ensigns, (and I do not know why the designation was changed,)

of the armies of the United States.

I allude to this merely as an interesting incident in our eso. And permit me to say—and his career was without example, so the personal distinction as any one in paying the tribute of my admiration an boldly—that there never was a more tions attached to him should remain his own, furnishing gratitude to Gen. Scott for his distinguished services

and of the arrangement for the return of Gen. Washing-

word created or established for revived, so that this grade | Mr. CHASE. When this resolution was originally be ordinates did btain it. They received their brevets, and he too is entired to one, and should receive it.

word ordinates did btain it. They received their brevets, and he too is entired to one, and should receive it.

word ordinates did btain it. They received their brevets, and proceedings. The mantle of Washington fell on no man, felt myself constrained to vote against it. I then gave and I have an insuperable objection to connect any one a silent vote, but I now propose to state briefly the rea sides, the proposition may raise a question we had better lesignation is to be given to a high officer charged with pose? Sir, the reward of duty is the tion upon this subject.

> cratic, and unsuited to the nature of our institutions. It is rather difficult to treat so absurd an objection seriously. What makes it aristocratic? Not the name; for we of the act which we are called upon to perform. I said have major generals with higher sounding titles, though with less rank, and we have captain generals in the States, tor from Michigan, that this rank has been but once creaters. and I believe also lieutenant generals in some of them.
> Where we shall stop in military grades is a mere question of expediency, depending on existing circumstances compeers. The Senator from Michigan is justly jealous and on the extent of our establishment At one time, during the administration of Mr. Jefferson,

> it was proposed, I believe by General Dearborn, then Secretary of War, to have no higher officer than a colonel and for many years—from the death of General Wayne, indeed, till the war of 1812, with the exception of the increased establishment arising out of the French difficulties, to which I have already referred—we had none higher than a brigadier general, which was the rank of General dices against it. My reason for its creation is, that it his reward was of a different description. of General Scott that his countrymen may be able to appreciate what he has done for their interest and their ho-Almost half a century has elapsed since his name and his deeds were household words, familiar to the American people throughout the whole extent of the Republic. But his campaign in Mexico was the crowning act of his military life, and it will ever fill one of the brightest pages of our history. I desire, however, to do justice to with the title which was conferred upon Wash general Scott, but no injustice to his co-laborers in that and I wish here to remark—and I believe the history of great work by a spirit of partisanship, to which we are the country will sustain me in stating—that the rank of great work by a spirit of partisanship, to which we are ever prone, and which would leave to his countrymen but lieutenant general was conferred upon Washington hin-little concern in many glorious victories but to admire self only because it was supposed that he was to be im-their splendor and his achievements. There is honor mediately called into the service of the country in a way enough for all—for the living and the dead—and let us with France. I have read the affecting and noble letter render it to all, to each indeed, as he merits it. Nothing in which he signified his acceptance of the commission s gained for the cause of patriotism or of truth by those invidious encomiums, which, while they elevate one, de-press many by the contrast they exhibit. General Scott to his country in a new and perilous field. nvidious encomiums, which, while they elevate one, deed to Mexico an American army, composed of volunteers and regular troops equal to those to be found in any other ervice, be it where it may, in physical power, in honor, in valor, in patriotism, and in intelligence. The progress of that army is almost without a parallel in ancient or

Armies were dispersed or overthrown before our gallant ountrymen, fortresses fell at their approach or attack, wards her successful warriors. and the capture of the capital terminated the campaign, and, in fact, placed the nation at our mercy. One inci-dent which marked these spiendid efforts gives them a If the rank remains the same, what is the harm of a deep interest and a romantic character, which we may days our adventurous army was lost to their countrymen and to the world. Relying upon the gallantry and superiority of his troops, the General adopted the hardy measure—wise as it proved by its success, but rash, as it would have been denounced had it failed—of abandoning his communications with the coast, and therefore with his country, and of committing the fate of his army to a few distinction? Let me ask, was not the substantial power of Louis Napoleon two months ago as great as it is now? Where, then, according to this argument, was the harm in proclaiming him Emperor? Where the harm of settling the descent in his family? Mr. President, I am averse to this new policy. We want a simple, economical Government and while I

" Quum circumfusa repente, Scindit se nubes, et in æthera purgat apertum," and we saw our flag upon the towers of Mexico, and the

campaign brought to a glorious conclusion. In these operations, so gratifying to our pride and honorable to our character, General Scott was the leader the commander, responsible to his country for their projection and their execution. And well did he fulfil the

task assigned to him. Bold and active in his movements, fertile in resource and prompt in seizing every advantage of the errors of his enemy, he displayed traits of generalship which have commanded the respect of the world, and have placed him among the great captains of the age. And these brilliant achievements have not only conferred imperishable honor upon our name, but they have added to our moral strength and standing among the nations of the earth, by the dis play of noble qualities which prove that an American army is as able as it is willing to stand between their country and her foes, and to defend her rights and her interests in any extremity of difficulty and danger

with a perfect conviction of the truth, that I do not be-lieve there is another military establishment in the world which exceeds it in the great characteristics of honor, pa-triotism, discipline, and valor; and I have heard with great pleasure the just an'z eloquent remarks of the Sena-tor from Illinois (Mr. S. was an'z eloquent remarks of the Sena-tor from Illinois (Mr. S. was an'z eloquent remarks of the Sena-tor from Illinois (Mr. S. was an'z eloquent remarks of the Sena-tor from Illinois (Mr. S. was an'z eloquent remarks of the Senasideration in the Senate on a former occasion, I offered a few remarks in opposition to the measure. It is not my purpose now to go over those remarks again, or to express all ways done its d aty to the country, and often under circumstances of the greatest difficulty and danger, and I hope the country will always be disposed to deal with it in a spirit of justice and kindness.

The granting of additional brevet rank for gallant services on the 'attle-field may be considered now as part of our nations' apolicy, sanctioned by practice and by the approbation, of the country. As to titles, such as are granted else shere, thank God we have none to bestow; and I our nation a policy, sanctioned by practice and by the approbation of the country. As to titles, such as are grant-ed else where, thank God we have none to bestow; and I confer on General Scott, it will be honorable only when ed else where, thank God we have none to bestow; and I trust f shall never live to see the day when any pecuniary re wards will be conferred upon military men, except pendudy, agreeably to our present system. An additional brevet grade is the true official reward which our service offers, and it well becomes the nature of our institutions.

The campaigns in Mexico were fertile in glorious resolves and all who contributed to them by distinguished.

Senators, of the character and achievements of General Scott, it will be honorable only when conferred by the representatives of this nation, by the voice, and I should hope the unanimous voice, of the Congress of the United States. But in the proposition now before the Senate, it seems to me that we seek to avoid the responsibility of proclaiming to the world this high estimate, which has been expressed here by individual Senators, of the character and achievements of General Scott, it will be honorable only when conferred by the representatives of this nation, by the voice, and I should hope the unanimous voice, of the Congress of the United States. But in the proposition now before the Senate, it seems to me that we seek to avoid the responsibility of proclaiming to the world this high estimate, which has been expressed here by individual. Scott. Such, I am sure, is not the purpose of Senators who have brought forward the proposition in his favor. But thus it will appear upon the records of the country,

in all coming time.

To show the view which I entertain, and to bring for-He who planned and conducted one of those perilous in-roads into the heart of the enemy's country is the only liv-ing officer of the army excluded from this distribution of re-the American people, I desire to offer the following amend-

> Strike out all after the enacting clause, and insert: That the President of the United States be authorized to confer upon Major General Winfield Scott the brevet rank of lieutenant general, in acknowledgment of his gallant and meritorious services in the war with Mexico.

Mr. SHIELDS. Will the Senator permit me to ask whether that will be constitutional? ed that matter in the committee, and we felt that we could not designate the individual in any way, but that we might create rank and leave the President to fill it to first lieutenants, captains, majors, lieutenant colonels, colonels, brigadier generals, and major generals, and

as he should please.

Mr. BORLAND. If I could be satisfied that my prothere we have always stopped, with the exception of the office of commander-in-chief during the revolutionary war, ed it, nor now insist upon it; but I confess I have been unable to see wherein it is unconstitutional. If any Seton to the military service of the country during our diffi-culties with France, when the position of commander of the thank him for it. I shall be glad to be informed how it army, commissioned as a lieutanant general, was conferred upon him, but was afterwards changed to that of general of the armies of the United States. the United States to fill it. For my life I cannot see, so military history, and not as a precedent for our action far as the exercise of the power is concerned, any substantial difference between the propositions. But I o no precedent for future application.

And it is in this spirit of jealous reverence for the name and the fame of Washington that I shall ask my friend from Alabama (Mr. Clemens) to consent to the change of a word in his amendatory resolution, by substituting the a word in his amendatory resolution, by substituting the

The object of the resolution has been distinctly avow avoid when we can avoid it so easily and so properly. The ed by the honorable Senators from Illinois and Michigan office of lieutenant general was never directly introduced into our service. The office created was that of "commander of the army," "to be commissioned as lieutenant general," and who was "authorized to command the armies of American Congress should create this rank, which has the United States." Hereit will be seen that the naked grade been, as stated by the Senator from Michigan, but once of licutentant general is not provided for, but that the created in our history, and then for a particular purthe command of all our military force. A question arose duty done. That is the highest reward, and I suppose respecting the constitutionality of this arrangement, because it seemed to interfere with the constitutional right covets—that consciousness which will sustain him at all of the President to "be commander-in-chief of the army times and under all circumstances amid opprobrium as and navy of the United States," &c. And therefore, at well as applause—the reward which he finds in his own a subsequent session of Congress, this arrangement was breast, and which it is impossible that any can take from repealed, and provision was made for the appointment of him. Sir, no man wishes to take a leaf from any laurel a "general of the armies of the United States." I desire which Gen. Scott has won or worn. No man desires to to leave sacred and untouched an office created expressly deprive him in the smallest degree of any honors which for Washington, and also to avoid any constitutional ques- a grateful country has bestowed upon him, or of that world-wide esteem in which he is held wherever the fame To render the proposed measure obnoxious, the grade of his achievements has gone; and that fame has gone of lieutenant general has been charged with being aristo- wherever civilized men exist, and indeed, I may say,

of the fame of Washington, and would not have the office by which he was distinguished revived. He proposes, therefore, "that the office be now created."

But I submit that no mere change of phrase will accomplish his object. The thing remains; the fact is there; you create anew the office which was created for Washington, for the sole purpose of conferring it upon another individual. It matters little whether you style it the 'creation " or the "revival" of the office.

Wilkinson, who commanded the army for many years. And let us remember, sir, that even the lead of our There is nothing more aristocratic in one military grade armies through the war of the revolution was not thought than in another. Experience has shown that these gra-dations are essential to efficient service; and where they shall stop is, as I have said, a mere question of legislative country the highest of all national benefits. He assured discretion. We do not now need the permanent position to her, by his services in the field, freedom and independof lietenant general in our army, nor do I foresee when ence, and, more than any other man, under the blessing we shall. And this conviction was the cause of the objectof Divine Providence, secured to us the institutions which tion I first took to this measure. I advert to the general | we now enjoy; and yet, whoever thought of dignifying considerations I have just presented, not at all as reasons for the creation of the grade, but to repel the charge of its aristocratic character, so well calculated to excite precieve and which Legislatures can take away. No, sir, will enable the proper authority to render an appropriate | was found in the consciousness of a noble heart that he testimonial to the services of General Scott in the same had conferred great benefits upon his country and upon manner as it has been rendered to every officer in the world. His reward, too, was found in that grateful the army he led to battle and to victory who was entitled acclaim of the people which surrounded him wherever he to the distinction. It is not necessary to review the life went, and distinguished him as "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.' was his distinction. No trappings of office; no mere military title; no pairry honors which can be conferred or taken away by Legislatures, constituted any part of it. It flowed from the great fountain of his own services, and was returned to him in the gratitude of the people.

but he accepted it, not as a trapping, not as a mere title

I recollect very well that when this subject was undr consideration before, it was suggested on the part of the opponents of the resolution that we were originating a new policy; that we were offering titles, mere titles, as r-wards for public service, and it was asked where it would of that army is almost without a parallel in ancient or in modern warfare, by the disparity of force it encountered and overcame, by the celerity of its movements, and by the uniform success of its operation, under circumstances of great trial and difficulty, in the midst of a hostile people, and cut off from their own country, self-dependant and self-sustained.

Armies were dispersed or overthrown before our gallant showing the gratitude and admiration of our Republic beshowing the gratitude and admiration of our Repu

My honorable friend from Michigan does not seem to higher title? If the substantial power is the same, where

his communications with the coast, and therefore with his country, and of committing the fate of his army to a forward movement into the heart of the enemy's territory, and to a vigorous attack upon the capital. We all reand to a vigorous attack upon the capital. We all remember with what anxiety this decisive movement was regarded, and how we waited, with almost painful solicitude, for tidings from our brethren engaged in a perilous conflict, and shrouded from our view by the cloud that rested upon them. But ere long this obscurity gave way, like the veil that covered and then revealed the Trojan hero ciples, cannot be vindicated without disregard of the

m against it.

Mr. President, I concur in much of what has been so well and so eloquently said by the distinguished Senator from Illinois, (Mr. Shields,) in regard to the brilliancy of the achievements of our army in the Mexican campaignt was my fortune, or misfortune, to be one of those who thought that war was unnecessarily commenced. It was my fortune, or misfortune, also, to be one of those who thought that it was inappropriately closed. In my judgment, when our army had obtained possession of the Mexican capital, and a government had been established for Mexico, better than that unfortunate country had ever known, because firmer, more impartial, and more equitable, it was our duty to retain the ascendency we had acquired, and introduce free and stable institutions into Mexico under American safeguards and auspices. But, sir, I dissent from that honorable Senator so far as he seems to think that the victories of war are greater than the victories of peace. Far otherwise, I think. I am willing to accord whatever meed of gratitude a grateful known, because firmer, more impartial, and more equita-